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The shy and respected Rev. J. Wilham Wright may not be wise in suggesting that the U-2 case, as a matter of course, could better have rested to complete fabrication, rather than the truth, in explaining the U-2 incident.

This alternative can be presented, however, only as a guide for the future use of the opposite, the truth, if this incident cannot be recalled.

Dutifully Mr. Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is vowing at the correction of what he calls a lack of coordination in the top echelons in the government. This he should do in the current investigation by his committee. The farthest, possibly warranted, is that the President himself should not have accepted responsibility.

But there is fault in his public promulgation of his alternative. And there is surprise in his apparent failure to realize that the Administration would have been equally subject to examination and criticism had the President and his associates determined to give a false explanation. We suspect, now, that even Sen. Fulbright himself would have complained of the use of such tactics of tactical untruth he suggests should be used.

In war, even a cold war, the field reports from pure truth are at a premium, especially in a war with an enemy as cunning as that which rules the East. At this stage we are surprised that the Governor from Arkansas would so brazenly say publicly as shown. He may have had that impression from his dealings with another opponent, but he is not in his country in the furtherance of a propaganda campaign against us.

It was Sen. Fulbright's opening statement at the start of the Foreign Relations Committee hearing on the matter, said it would be a non-partisan inquiry. He appears on a panel to be conciliatory.

Even in that event, I would have the duty of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, it seems to me, to have conducted an investigation. But if not Mr. Fulbright, some other member of that committee undoubtedly would have collected the falsification and made known it. We can hear a senator now charging that the United States had sunk in the levee of the Hoover in lying.

Perhaps Sen. Fulbright is tactically and tactically right when he says the Central Intelligence Agency, and not the President, should have taken responsibility for the U-2 incident. But he cannot be taken seriously when he tells the world his own idea of what happened in the fabricated story on the alleged cover-up of the truth — even if using such a story to make hot or-cold war conditions, which is the thing smartly to have done.

It is the senator's judgment that is questionable. His wavering, with his own conclusions in the situation, makes his poor judgment as was the President was guilty.

Whatever we said, we were accused after the U-2 incident, ruthlessly and systematically by the Soviets.

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